

"Dear Mr. President", Fayetteville and Farmington, Arkansas, January or February 1942

AFS 6429B

Jack Carlyle: Dear Mr. President, my name is Jack Carlyle and I live south of Fairville, Arkansas. Well, it looks like were in a [*disc skips*] again. It was nineteen and seventeen that we were having the war to end all the other wars. I wonder how those boys that died in 1917, I wonder how they're feeling now, if they can look down and see what's taken place. I think the trouble with the First World War and probably what is causing this one is that they didn't last long enough. They last about two months, lasted long enough . I think we ought to have gone on right on into Germany and those places there and show them just exactly how to win a war. And I think if we do those boys right, that died in the last world war, and the ones that are going to die in the world war number two-as they're calling this one — well we'll really do a good job of cleaning up this time.

When guys like Dillinger and Pretty Boy Floyd and Clyde Barrow, they were some little two-bit outlaws we had down here, they got ready to quit, and we didn't let them quit. We went right on and got them. And I think that's the way we should do the dictator. Let's go in there and cut off a few heads, and blow up a few towns, and really show them what the losing end of a war looks like. When you jump on some guy and catch them with his pants down, why, naturally, you're going to have the upper hand for a while. But, when he starts winning, why, when they throw up their hands and they quit we should go right on.

When this war is over, I think the United States should take over the Western Hemisphere: Canada, Mexico, South America. At least control South America, and some bases down there. If we're going to have to police the world, why, we should at least have charge of half of it. And now that we are in this war, why I think we should really go all out. Instead of just putting the shoulders to the wheel, I think we ought to get on top of the wheel, I think we all ought to get in the war. And I think that we should forget everything, all fun, all everything and get in the serious business of sure enough winning the war. Let's draft not only just people, let's take money and factories, and men, and women, and kids, everything.

War's not good and so the best thing to do is just get in and get them over with just as fast as we can, and stop all these strikes. Most of the reason they have these strikes, these strikers, they look around and they're making sixty-five or seventy cents an hour, working the shipyard or something, and they see some carpenter that couldn't even hold down a job before the war, making a dollar and a half an hour as a carpenter and time and a half for overtime. So they want to get in on a little of

that money and they go out on strike. Well if they do away with all the money and everything else until we get the war over, why, this dissatisfaction will be ended.

A man goes — when a man goes to war, he gives his life, or a leg, or an arm or gets all crippled up, and he comes back he can't grow another leg if he comes back with his head shot off well he's just plum blowed up. And so I think if a man just loses part of his money, why, he can make that back. If he loses all of it, he can make that back, too. So, I think we should take a man's money, and automobile, his house, car, truck, plow, his land, or anything that he has in order to win this war. I say let's quit all the foolishness and go out and win the war. After all, this country's just a big family, and it's being threatened by a bunch of dictators. And if your family, your own home, was being threatened, and two or three of your boys was off playing around on a picnic, why you'd think that was kind of silly. And for that same reason I think that everybody in this country right now should be spending every effort to try and win the war. I thank you Mr. President.